



NEWS RELEASE

Today's Date: Thursday, August 23, 2007 -- 07-040

District: District 2 - Redding

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pavement Improvements on Interstate 5 in Shasta County

REDDING – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has begun a major pavement restoration project on Interstate 5 (I-5) in Shasta County beginning near Anderson to the connection of I-5 and State Route 273 in north Redding. The project began in July and will continue until mid to late October of this year. A complete ramp closure from southbound I-5 to the westbound SR 44 toward Redding will be in effect Tuesday, August 28-29, 2007 between Midnight and 6 a.m. and Wednesday, August 29-30, 2007 between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Both lanes of the interstate will be overlaid with a thin layer of open graded asphalt concrete, a type of pavement that is designed to extend the life of the existing pavement by sealing and improving the surface. In addition, the pavement has a higher level of voids than conventional dense graded pavement allowing water to drain off the highway without the tire spray and will diffuse some of the tire sounds which will lower the noise of the highway. Bridge decks will be upgraded with a polyester overlay, a lighter weight material which helps with future maintenance and decreases wear and tear on the bridge deck surface. Guardrail and striping will be replaced as well.

The \$8 million project is being constructed by JF Shea, Inc. of Redding and is a routine maintenance project funded by the highway maintenance funds. Construction is being conducted mostly at night between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., with lane closures and some complete ramp closures. Work during the day will be limited to shoulder work with no impact to the traveling public.

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NOTE: An electronic version of this news release is available on the Internet at the following web address: <http://caltrans2.info/roadinfo.htm>